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Weekend, January 20-22, 2012
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News worth sharing.

▶ Sarah Burke poses with her gold medal after winning the women's skiing superpipe at Winter X Games 13 in 2009. Burke died Thursday of injuries she suffered in a training accident.

DOUG PENSINGER/GETTY IMAGES

Squamish's Burke dies

Damage to her brain was 'irreversible' following cardiac arrest suffered during superpipe accident ◐ Skier pushed to have her sport included in the 2014 Sochi Olympics ◐ Four-time X Games champ donated her organs

Sarah Burke was an X Games star with a grass-roots mentality — a daredevil superpipe skier who understood the risks inherent to her sport and the debt she owed to it.

The pioneering Canadian freestyler, who helped get superpipe accepted into the Olympics, died Thursday after a Jan. 10 crash during a training run in Park City, Utah.

Burke was 29.

Tests revealed she sustained "irreversible damage to her brain due to lack of oxygen and blood after cardiac arrest," according to a statement released by her publicist, Nicole Wool, on behalf of the family.

"Our hearts go out to Sarah's husband Rory and her entire family," Canadian Freestyle Ski Association CEO Peter Judge said in a statement. "It's difficult for us to imagine their pain and what they're going through. Sarah was certainly someone who lived life to the fullest and in doing so was a significant example to our community and far beyond.

"She will be greatly missed by all of us at the CFSA and the entire ski community."

Wool said Burke's organs and tissues were donated, as she had requested before the accident.

"The family expresses their heartfelt gratitude for the international outpouring of support they have received from all the people Sarah touched," the statement said.

A four-time Winter X Games champion, Burke will be remembered as much for the hardware she collected as the legacy she left for women in superpipe skiing, a sister sport to the more popular snowboarding brand that has turned Shaun White, Hannah Teter and others into stars.

Aware of the big role the Olympics played in pushing the Whites of the world from the fringes into the mainstream, Burke lobbied to add superpipe skiing to the Winter Games program, noting that no new infrastructure would be needed.

Her arguments won over Olympic officials and the discipline will debut at the Sochi Games in 2014, where Burke likely would have been a favourite for the gold medal.

"Sarah, in many ways, defines the sport," Judge said before her death. "She's been involved since the very, very early days as one of the first people to bring skis into the pipe. She's also been very dedicated in trying to define her sport but not define herself by winning. For her, it's been about making herself the best she can be rather than comparing herself to other people."

A native of Barrie, Ont., who grew up in nearby Midland before moving to Squamish, Burke won the ESPY in 2007 as female action sports athlete of the year.

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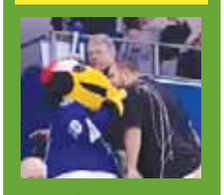

Looking for new ways to get booted from an NHL game? You could always try tackling the mascot. Watch at metronews.ca/video

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PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS/METRO

▶ Silas O'Brien's parents Rodger and Michelle express their relief after Brent Parent was found guilty in their son's hit-and-run death.

Parents relieved at guilty verdict in road-rage death

Brent Parent convicted on three counts, including criminal negligence causing death

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS
@METRONEWS.CA

Brent Parent was found guilty on three of the five charges against him in the March 2008 hit-and-run death of Silas O'Brien.

B.C. Supreme Court judge Terence Schultes convicted the 42-year-old Langley resident of criminal negligence causing death, dangerous driving, and failing to remain at the scene of an accident.

One count of dangerous driving causing death was stayed, and Parent was acquitted of a second count of leaving the scene of an accident.

O'Brien, 21, was struck by a vehicle at around 2 a.m. on 16th Avenue in Langley. O'Brien's friends testified their truck was pushed off into a ditch by a Ford pickup truck, which came back and ran down O'Brien.

Parent had testified he didn't know he had hit anyone until he saw the news the next day.

Outside the courthouse, O'Brien's parents expressed their relief with the judge's decision.

"It's done," Silas's mother Michelle said.

Father Rodger thanked the Crown, integrated homicide investigation team investigators and the judge.

"It's the only way it could have gone," he added.

Defence lawyer Vincent Michaels said Parent was "shocked and disappointed," but they will be reviewing the transcript and evidence to examine their options.

Parent will remain out on bail, but the judge ordered him to stay in the province and surrender his passport.

His sentencing hearing is set for April 27.

VPD should have taken action, Pickton inquiry hears

Vancouver police could have investigated serial killer Robert Pickton rather than simply leaving him to the RCMP in a neighbouring city, the public inquiry into the case has heard.

Deputy Chief Jennifer Evans of Peel Regional Police, who conducted an external review for the inquiry, contradicted the Vancouver police force's long-standing insistence that Pickton was the responsibility of the Mounties in Port Coquitlam because that's where he was killing women.

Evans said Thursday when Vancouver police received information in 1998 and 1999 that Pickton may have been picking up sex workers in the city and killing them at his farm, they should have opened a criminal investigation.

"Due to the number of women that had gone missing, it was my opinion that investigators could have come to the conclusion that Pickton was targeting women in the Downtown Eastside, and he was going in looking (for victims), so the offence would start in Vancouver," Evans told the inquiry.

She said Vancouver police could have opened investigations into the offences of kidnapping because Pickton appeared to pick up women with the intent to kill them. Another possible charge would be administering a noxious substance because informants told police Pickton used alcohol and drugs to lure women.

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Pageant contender to plead guilty to riot charge

The lawyer for a former beauty-pageant contestant who has become the second person to say she intends to plead guilty in the Stanley Cup riot in Vancouver says he will oppose TV cameras in court.

As with the first admitted rioter, court proceedings for Sophie Laboissonniere will be delayed by arguments over whether her case will be broadcast on TV, something the province wants for people who took part in the rampage last June.

Her lawyer, David Baker, says his application opposing cameras in the court will delay the guilty plea and sentencing and waste court resources.

Baker says Laboissonniere — who won Miss Congeniality in a local beauty pageant — is trying to atone for her public mistakes, but suffers because she gets more media attention than others, owing to her beauty-queen past.

The lawyer for the first person to plead guilty in the riot, Ryan Dickinson, was in court Tuesday to say he will also argue against having TV cameras in the courtroom. His sentencing hearing has been delayed.

Thirty people have been charged with riot-related offences, but police have recommended charges against a total of 100 people suspected of taking part in the melee.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

MATT KIELTYKA/METRO

▶ Premier Christy Clark and Minister of Social Development Stephanie Cadieux announce a cash infusion and policy change for Community Living B.C.

Beleaguered agency gets $40M overhaul

Policy shift, funding boost aimed at fixing longtime systemic problems at Community Living B.C.

MATT KIELTYKA
@METRONEWS.CA

Families have suffered enough.

That was the cry from all sides of the political spectrum on Thursday as Premier Christy Clark announced a $40-million cash infusion and sweeping reforms to fix the troubled Community Living B.C. agency, which serves some 13,000 adults with developmental disabilities.

Funding challenges, the closing of group homes, conflicts of interest, lack of communication between ministries and inconsistent service have dogged the organization for some time.

"When we identify a real problem for families in B.C., we have a responsibility to be there," Clark said. "We're moving away from a one-size-fits-all model. We didn't want to fix it just for today. We wanted to fix it for a long time."

NDP Leader Adrian Dix applauded the boost in funding but accused the Liberals of dragging their feet.

"We need to keep the pressure on because there's too much at stake — families have suffered," he said. "The report shows a failure on the part of government. We recognized that CLBC was failing, but the government had denied that."

Other steps being taken include establishing a permanent appeals process for clients, bringing CLBC under the mandate of the Representative for Children and Youth, expanding employment and training services and revamping transitional services and planning for youth turning 19.

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Sex-trade supporters rally for case

- Group filed constitutional challenge in 2007 against communication and bawdy-house laws
- Prostitution legal, but communicating for buying or selling sex, pimping and running brothel are all illegal

JOE LOFARO/METRO

▶ Sheryl Kiselbach speaks outside the Supreme Court of Canada on Thursday after arguing before the court that sex workers should have the right to challenge Canada's prostitution laws.

JOE LOFARO
@METRONEWS.CA
METRO CANADA IN OTTAWA

Sex-worker support groups rallied outside the Supreme Court of Canada Thursday afternoon after a B.C. group argued before the top court that they should be allowed to challenge Canada's prostitution laws.

After the hearing, Lawyer Katrina Pacey joined her clients, the Downtown Eastside Sex Workers United Against Violence society (SWUAV) and Sheryl Kiselbach, a former sex worker, on the front steps of the court to speak to the media.

SWUAV and Kiselbach filed a constitutional challenge in 2007 against the communication law, as well the bawdy-house law and some aspects of the procuring law.

"I'd love to be able to tell them they don't have to fear looking over their shoulder when they're working on the street, that they can take their time in assessing that john." SHERYL KISELBACH

The plaintiffs argue Canada's current laws put sex workers in dangerous situations and perpetuate the risks they face.

Pacey said Thursday was an emotional day and described it as a first step for sex workers getting their day in court.

"What this is about is access to justice and to tell the justice system about the charter violations they face every day," Pacey said.

Prostitutes of Ottawa/Gatineau Work Educate and Resist (POWER) vice chair Chris Bruckert, who recently voiced concerns about violence against sex workers in Ottawa, said the general public is starting to understand that the key issue of this ongoing battle is violence against women.

"Most people will not support policies that will facilitate violence against women," said Bruckert.

A decision is expected from the court in the next few months.

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▶ Crystal Lai, top, and Tammy Morris of Tantra Fitness pose on a dance pole at the Vancouver Convention Centre on Thursday.

Sex show sizzles under the sails

Taboo Naughty but Nice show sees more than 40,000 attendees every year

JENNIFER KWOK
VANCOUVER@METRONEWS.CA

The Vancouver Convention Centre has been transformed into a hot sizzling playground for the weekend with the return of the 11th annual Taboo Naughty but Nice Show.

Dedicated to enhancing lifestyles, encouraging romance and bettering yourself, the trade show sees more than 40,000 attendees each year and features provocative and educational seminars, live entertainment, shopping, food and alcohol.

"The show is a forum for everyone from different walks of life to come together," said Taboo spokeswoman Master Sarah Moanies. "We want to dissolve that stigma that it's too taboo to talk about."

The venue is decorated with floating lights and carpets, and exhibits exotic goodies.

"Expect people hanging from silks off the roof and doing gymnastics like Cirque du soleil," said director Kevin Blackburn.

"It's upscale and there is nothing to be afraid of. Just come down to discover and have fun."

Tickets

▶ For adults only, the event runs from to Jan. 22. Tickets are $15 online and $20 at the door.

Mexican journalist in B.C. fears for her life

A Mexican journalist seeking asylum in Canada says she's facing death threats after reporting on allegations of corruption within the Mexican government.

Karla Ramirez, who fled to B.C. in 2008 and has been denied refugee status, is now asking to stay in Canada on humanitarian and compassionate grounds.

Since her arrival in Canada, Ramirez has published a book that she says exposes corruption at the highest levels of the cultural agencies of the Mexican government.

She says she fled Mexico because she was the target of verbal and physical intimidation and has faced new death threats since writing her book.

"Karla is exactly the type of person that our refugee system is supposed to protect," said one of her lawyers, Lobat Sadrehashemi.

"She believes with all her being that it is her duty to expose the corruption, or else it will just continue."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Whooping cough in Fraser Valley

Parents in the Fraser Valley are being urged to vaccinate their children as an outbreak of whooping cough spreads throughout the region.

The Fraser Health Authority says there have been more than 80 cases of the potentially serious respiratory disease in the Hope region since August and new cases have surfaced recently in the Agassiz-Harrison area.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Drilling home the pipeline debate

Greenpeace co-founder Rex Weyler to speak at community forum Locals to hear first-hand account

MATT KIELTYKA
@METRONEWS.CA

As public hearings into the Enbridge pipelines continue in northern B.C., residents of the Lower Mainland will get a chance to hear from critics of the proposed mega-project this weekend.

Oil Free Coast, a community forum at Vancouver's Roundhouse Community Centre, takes place Sunday and lets locals hear about the many issues affecting communities along the proposed pipeline route.

Speakers will include Greenpeace co-founder Rex Weyler, Skeena-Bulkley Valley MP Nathan Cullen and Coast First Nations executive director Art Sterritt.

HANDOUT/METRO FILE

▶ Greenpeace co-founder, Rex Weyler

Sterritt said the event is an opportunity to get a first-hand account of the pipeline debate.

"It's absolutely critical folks in the Lower Mainland understand the concerns Coastal First Nations have," he said. "People will understand that we're not a radical environmental group like some have said."

Sterritt says aboriginals have spent decades growing sustainable industries and eco-tourism in the North, all of which threatens to be undone in the face of an environmental disaster.

The event runs from 1 to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

More coverage {page 9}

January

20

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$1.5M to reduce head injuries

The federal government will spend $1.5 million to help reduce concussions in kids sports.

The money goes to ThinkFirst Canada, Hockey Canada, the Coaching Association of Canada and the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport to support efforts to reduce the rate and severity of sports-related head injuries. The groups will work on increasing awareness among coaches, players and parents.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sports link

- **The government says** accidental injuries are the leading cause of death for people under the age of 19.
- **More than 40 per cent** of brain injuries in children and youth aged 10 to 19 treated in hospital emergency departments result from sports and recreation activities.

Players rescue pup

A six-week-old puppy is in need of some serious pampering after being rescued from the bitter cold by three junior hockey players in Saskatchewan.

Teammates from the Prince Albert Raiders saw a woman drop something into the bed of a parked truck earlier this week as temperatures dipped to -40 C. They found a freezing pooch showing serious signs of neglect, so they decided to call police.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Deal won't end protest

DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

▶ Gitxsan First Nation hereditary Chief Gilbert Johnson protests last week outside the blockaded Gitxsan Treaty Office in Hazelton, B.C.

Pipeline dispute brings other issues to surface for Gitxsan

A group of Gitxsan hereditary chiefs has withdrawn support for the controversial Northern Gateway pipeline project but the reversal is not enough to end a protest in northwestern B.C.

Members of the Gitxsan First Nation have blockaded the Gitxsan Treaty Office in Hazelton, about 1,000 kilometres north of Vancouver, since Dec. 5, to voice their objections to several decisions by the Gitxsan Treaty Society.

Gilbert Johnson, who helped nail shut the doors of the treaty office, said the decision taken Tuesday night by about 47 hereditary chiefs can't undo the anger against society negotiators.

One spokesman had speculated the blockade might be lifted soon but Johnson said that won't happen because there are three other contentious issues that need to be dealt with besides the Enbridge Inc. pipeline.

He said the other issues include a forestry deal about five years ago that failed to provide $500 annually for five years to every Gitxsan.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Complicated

British Columbia is blanketed by a complicated quilt of overlapping native land claims and securing the support of aboriginal groups along the line would allow Enbridge to avoid costly and lengthy legal battles to make the pipeline a reality.

Romney faces primary pressure ahead of vote

Frontrunner's campaign jolted after Rick Perry drops out of Republican nominee race, backs opponent

Mitt Romney's march to the Republican presidential nomination was shaken Thursday, two days ahead of the crucial South Carolina primary, as Rick Perry dropped out and endorsed a gaining Newt Gingrich.

Romney has led the contest to select a challenger to President Barack Obama in November, benefiting from a fractured Republican field and the failure of conservatives to rally behind a candidate. The remaining candidates debated Thursday night.

Gingrich, a former speaker of the House of Representatives, is emerging as the main rival to Romney. Polls show him in second place in South Carolina, gaining ground but still trailing the former Massachusetts governor by about 10 percentage points.

CHARLES DHARAPAK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Mitt Romney

Saturday's South Carolina primary is seen as the pivotal contest in the race, following what had initially been declared a very narrow victory for Romney in Iowa, the first nominating contest, and a solid Romney win in last week's New Hampshire primary.

That means that even if Romney holds on to his lead and wins in South Carolina, he won't be able to claim victory in the first three contests — an achievement that would have made him appear to be the all-but-inevitable nominee.

The wealthy Romney, a venture capitalist, has campaigned on the assertion that his business background makes him the logical candidate to defeat Obama. But he faces growing scrutiny over his vast fortune and acknowledged reports that he has millions invested in the Cayman Islands.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Perry knew when to call it quits

DAVID GOLDMAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Rick Perry

Rick Perry abandoned his presidential bid on Thursday, citing money issues and in-party fighting as the reasons.

"I know when it's time to make a strategic retreat," Perry, the former Texas governor, announced Thursday after he endorsed Gingrich calling him "a conservative visionary."

Perry had faced calls to drop out to compel conservative voters, whose support has been divided among several candidates, to rally for Gingrich. Perry spokesman Ray Sullivan said money was also a factor. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MATT ROURKE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Newt Gingrich, accompanied by his wife, Callista.

GINGRICH WANTED 'OPEN MARRIAGE': EX-WIFE

Dredging up a past that Newt Gingrich has worked hard to bury, the Republican presidential candidate's second ex-wife says Gingrich asked for an "open marriage" in which he could have both a wife and a mistress.

In an interview with ABC News' Nightline scheduled to air Thursday night, Marianne Gingrich said she refused to go along with the idea that she share her husband with Callista Bisek, who would later become his third wife.

The interview was airing just two days before the presidential primary in South Carolina, a state with a strong Christian conservative bent, and as Gingrich tries to present himself as the strongest alternative to Republican front-runner Mitt Romney.

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Sears

Megaupload shut

Comes one day after Wikipedia, others stage protest over legislation

One of the world's largest file-sharing sites was shut down Thursday, and its founder and several company executives were charged with violating piracy laws, U.S. federal prosecutors said.

An indictment accuses Megaupload.com of costing copyright holders more than $500 million US in lost revenue from pirated films and other content.

The indictment was unsealed one day after websites including Wikipedia and Craigslist shut down in protest of two congressional proposals intended to thwart online piracy.

The Justice Department said in a statement that Kim Dotcom and three others were arrested Thursday in New Zealand at the request of U.S. officials. Two other defendants are at large.

The website allowed users to download films, TV shows, games, music and other content for free, but made money by charging subscriptions to people who wanted access to faster download speeds or extra content.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Star support

Megaupload was unique not only because of its massive size and the volume of downloaded content, but also because it had high-profile support from celebrities, musicians and other content producers who are most often the victims of copyright infringement and piracy.

▶ This undated image obtained by The Associated Press shows the homepage of the website Megaupload.com.

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Free web access in Uruguay

Uruguay's state-owned communications company is giving users a day of free Internet access in support of freedom online.

Antel says it is inspired by the Internet blackout led by U.S. search and social media companies against anti-piracy bills in the U.S. Congress. It's offering free net access on Monday.

The company says it has no position on the anti-piracy bills, but wants to strengthen the principle of free access.

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Missing the message

Study shows many teens are still not using contraception

A new U.S. government study suggests a lot of teenage girls are clueless about their chances of getting pregnant.

In a survey of thousands of teenage mothers who had unintended pregnancies, about a third said they didn't use birth control because they didn't believe they could become pregnant.

What they were thinking, exactly, isn't clear. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention survey didn't ask teens to explain their reasoning.

"... misperception, ambivalence and magical thinking put teens at risk for unintended pregnancy."

BILL ALBERT, NATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO PREVENT TEEN AND UNPLANNED PREGNANCY

But other researchers have talked to teen moms who believed they couldn't get pregnant the first time they had sex, didn't think they could get pregnant at that time of the month or thought they were sterile.

The researchers interviewed nearly 5,000 teenage girls in 19 states who gave birth after unplanned pregnancies in 2004 through 2008.

About half of the girls in the survey said they were not using any birth control when they got pregnant. That's higher than surveys of teens in general, which have found that fewer than 20 per cent said they didn't use contraception the last time they had sex.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hanging. At Guggenheim

▶ Sculpture by artist Maurizio Cattelan hangs in the rotunda of the Guggenheim Museum in New York. The Italian artist's work is on exhibit through Jan. 22.

MARK LENNIHAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Suspended in space

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Kodak files for Chapter 11 protection

Storied photo company restructures business to cut costs and accelerate drawn-out digital transformation

DAVID DUPRE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Eastman Kodak headquarters is shown in Rochester, N.Y., on Thursday.

The glory days when Eastman Kodak Co. ruled the world of film photography lasted for more than a century. Then came a stunning reversal of fortune: cutthroat competition from Japanese firms in the 1980s and a seismic shift to the digital technology it pioneered but couldn't capitalize on.

Kodak filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection on Thursday, raising the spectre that the 132-year-old trailblazer could become the most storied casualty of a digital age.

Already a shadow of its former self, cash-poor Kodak will now reorganize in bankruptcy court as it seeks to boost its cash position and stay in business. The Rochester, N.Y.-based company is pinning its hopes on peddling a trove of photo patents and morphing into a new-look powerhouse built around printers and ink.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Analog to digital

- Through the 1990s, Kodak splurged $4 billion on developing the photo technology inside most cellphones and digital devices.
- The immensely lucrative analog business Kodak worried about undermining was virtually erased in a decade by the filmless photography it invented.

News in brief

Apple launches textbook for iPad

Apple has unveiled its plan to infiltrate and shake up the textbook market by selling inexpensive, interactive digital books to be read on iPads.

At a news conference in New York on Thursday, Apple announced it's partnered with three major textbook companies to launch a new section in its iBooks store dedicated to educational material.

Most textbooks will be priced at $14.99 US or less, Apple said, which is far cheaper than what schools and students are used to paying — especially for the thick, heavy tomes used in high schools, colleges and universities.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Accountants flagged no fraud: Nortel defence

Defence lawyers in the fraud trial of three former Nortel Networks executives say the company's independent auditors gave their stamp of approval to financial matters at Nortel, demonstrating that the accused were not engaged in a scheme to juggle the books.

David Porter, counsel for Nortel's ex-CEO Frank Dunn, said Thursday in opening arguments that the extent of external review contradicts Crown allegations the men were conspiring to defraud the company by cooking its books and manipulating profit.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market moment

PRICES AS OF 5 P.M. THURSDAY

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UHHH, IS THAT A MICROPHONE IN YOUR POCKET, OR ...

THE METRO LIST

NEIL MORTON
METRO

1 Tim Hortons goes extra large: Timmies got national attention this week when it announced a brand new extra-large cup size (24 ounces) to be introduced Monday, Jan. 23. But perhaps this tweet from radio DJ Dani Stover (@danigray) said it best: "I don't care about the size of Tim Horton's cups, all I want to know is when I can roll up the rim."

2 Seth Rogen: The Golden Globes were a snore until Canada's Seth Rogen took the stage to present an award alongside Kate Beckinsale and said, "Hello I'm Seth Rogen, and I'm currently trying to conceal a massive erection." Then everyone was aroused, er, woken up. Yes, a good penis joke never fails. Even George Clooney made one later in the broadcast.

3 Alcatraz Vancouver: Fox's fantastic, spooky, supernatural, J.J. Abrams-created prison drama Alcatraz, which premiered this week, is being produced in Vancouver, on the same North Shore Studios lot where several seasons of The X-Files were made. That makes this must-watch show all the more spooky.

4 Internet of darkness: More than 7,000 websites — including Wired, BoingBoing and Wikipedia — "went dark" Wednesday to protest anti-piracy legislation, currently making its way through the U.S. Congress, that could affect the Internet and freedom of speech. With less Internet, water-cooler talk must have gone up 25 per cent that day.

5 Tom Cruise & race cars: During a discussion on closeted gay celebrities on Piers Morgan Tonight this week, Rosie O'Donnell said, "People say to me all the time, 'Tom Cruise is gay.' I've been around Tom Cruise a lot. Tom Cruise drives race cars, Tom Cruise is ... I do not think Tom Cruise is gay. I have never thought Tom Cruise is gay." Well, OK, then.

6 Groom's Bieber dance: If you're a groom and at your wedding you and your groomsmen star in an epic choreographed performance set to Justin Bieber's Baby, it will get the attention not only of your bride but also of the world. "Brian's Surprise Justin Bieber Wedding Dance for Emily" on YouTube already has nearly four million views.

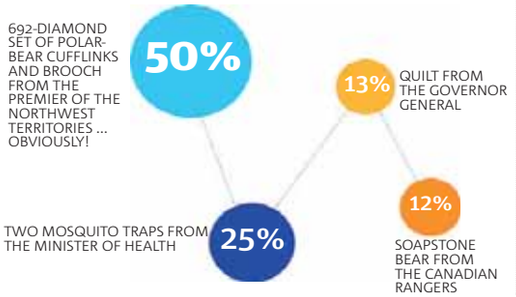
7 Giant killers: The 15-1 Green Bay Packers were being called one of the best teams ever and were expected to repeat as Super Bowl champions, but in a stunning playoff collapse on their home field they lost 37-20 to the New York Giants. The Packers finished the season 15-2 — one of the biggest choke jobs in history.

8 Andrea Bargnani: The seven-foot 26-year-old is finally showing why the Toronto Raptors drafted him first overall in 2006. Averaging 22 points a game (No. 9 in the NBA) and a career-best 6.5 rebounds a game, Bargnani is playing like an all-star on a mediocre Raptor team. He may yet be the second coming of Dirk Nowitzki.

Follow Neil Morton on Twitter (@neilmorton).

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

What item on the list of gifts given to the royal couple on their cross-Canada trip would you most like for yourself?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13%
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12%
SOAPSTONE BEAR FROM THE CANADIAN RANGERS
TWO MOSQUITO TRAPS FROM THE MINISTER OF HEALTH
25%

Local tweets

- **@jess mendoza:** Tears r flowing for my friend Sarah Burke, her family, her husband Rory. World lost 1 of the most amazing people & athletes #doesntmakesense
- **@lukemitrani:** R.I.P Sarah Burke will be shredding for you tomorrow <3
- **@shannonleetweed:** RIP Sarah Burke you were awesome we will miss you.
- **@David_Boreanaz:** So sad about Sarah Burke. RIP. Prayers to her family and friends. #SarahBurke
- **@CDNOlympicTeam:** Our deepest, heartfelt condolences to Sarah Burke's family and friends. This true champion will be missed.
- **@FionaForbes:** My heart is broken for Sarah Burke and her family. She was an amazing athlete and an amazing person.
- **@jianghomeshi:** We are planning a tribute as part of #Q Live here in Utah tonite where Canadian freestyle skier Sarah Burke has now died. RIP Sarah.
- **@simmonssteve:** The very talented Sarah Burke has passed away. Condolences to all who knew and loved this very special woman.

GETTY IMAGES

Bath time, Russian-style

Taking religion to an extreme

MOSCOW, RUSSIA. Braving the legendary Russian winter, thousands of Orthodox Christians across the country have celebrated the feast of the Epiphany the traditional way ... by bathing in cold ice pools outside to "cleanse themselves of sins." For the faithful, this ritual pays homage to the baptism of Jesus Christ. MWN

Baptism of ice

- **The Crucifix-shaped hole** in ice is named "Iordan" after the Jordan River, where Jesus Christ was baptized.
- **Three times a blessing:** After descending wooden steps, believers submerge their bodies completely in water three times (in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit).

A dip in the ice gives life to you

BENEFITS. And what are the benefits of a winter swim, if any? Experts say it can stimulate mental processes and produce hormones to make the body cope with physical ailments. It can also release stress, remove aches and pains, increase vitality and keep skin looking younger. It can also treat asthma or arthritis. MWN

"When a person is in cold water all his or her blood is redistributed around the body, and this is actually good for the health."
VLADIMIR GREBENKIN, PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR WINTER MARATHON SWIMMING, TELLS RUSSIAN MEDIA

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HANDOUT

▶ The anti-racist message of Red Tails is lost in the cardboard characters and wooden acting.

Tails is too 'talky'

The flight scenes are fun, but Red Tails is slowed down by leaden dialogue

Synopsis

- Based on true events (though highly fictionalized), the movie focuses on four African American pilots from the Second World War — the top guns of the 332nd Fighter Group — the Tuskegee Airmen. In fighting the racial discrimination of the U.S. military, they prove their mettle by taking on dangerous assignments in active combat.
- **Ratings:**
  Richard: ⊕⊕½
  Mark: ⊕½

Reel Guys

RICHARD CROUSE & MARK BRESLIN

Richard: Mark, you can't accuse Red Tails of being subtle. It is unabashedly patriotic, unapologetically melodramatic and an unashamed throwback to the propaganda movies of the 1940s. The mix and match of those elements works for the first hour, but the time one of the pilots whoops, "Let's give those newspapers something to write about!" the once charming tone of the movie started to wear thin for me. You?

Mark: Charmed? Naw, I was too busy being stupefied at the racial condescension of the movie. The movie has the best of intentions, but its anti-racist message is lost amidst the cardboard characters, leaden dialogue, wooden acting and overemphatic score. The story is so dumbed down it's a bit of an insult to those Tuskegee airmen it wants to honour. Neat flight jackets, though.

Richard: I didn't find the script condescending, just ordinary. An extraordinary, and mostly hidden history like the story of the Tuskegee Red Tails deserves something a little more than a by-the-book retelling. I agree with you about the flight jackets; they are sharp, but I also found the in-flight scenes to be exciting. Too much dialogue for my taste, but the aerial photography was fun.

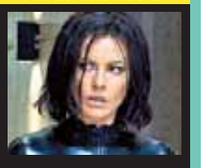
MB: The aerial photography may be the only reason to watch this picture. Yet, in many of the long shots, it looked like a video game to me. And was there ever a more nauseating, saccharine romantic subplot as the one in this movie? I was so grateful that most of the dialogue was in Italian! Some of the acting was passable: Terrence Howard had a couple of good speeches, but most of the time he acted with his pipe.

RC: Ha! I think I enjoyed this more than you. But just by a hair. It's too long, too talky and too corny, but I liked some of the characters and enjoyed watching the flight sequences. I do, however, wish there was less dialogue during the dogfights. I think fighter pilots in attack mode have better things to concentrate on than making wisecracks.

MB: Yes, the confidence of the pilots under fire bordered on the comical. But one thing I found interesting: The racism of the pilots' fellow white Americans was worse than of the Nazis, who only dismissed them with snotty attitude rather than overtly trying to beat them up and using the dreaded N-word. I don't know if it was intentional, but the point packed a wallop for me.

2 scene

Scene in brief



Opening this week is Underworld: Awakening, the newest entry in the film series starring Kate Beckinsale as the vampire Selene. In this film, Selene must fight humankind when it starts a war against vampires and the Lycan clan — the werewolf enemies of the vampires.

METRO

Eighty years later, silence still golden for Oscars, with Wings and The Artist like bookends.

HANDOUT

▶ Sam Worthington and Elizabeth Banks in a scene from Man on a Ledge.

Immersed in the pigeon's playground

When you're way up there, it's a different world

SASHA PERL-RAVER
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA
METRO WORLD NEWS IN HOLLYWOOD

When making a movie while precariously perched on the side of a Manhattan building, even the most powerful Hollywood producer or über-skilled stunt teams can't keep you safe from your true nemesis: Pigeons.

"You're in their world," Man on a Ledge star Sam Worthington says. "And the more you squawk at them, the more they laugh at you."

Co-star Elizabeth Banks agrees.

"I was always worried they were going to fly into my head," she says. "I didn't really care about the whole pooping-on-me thing, that can happen. But they'd just kind of dart around every once in awhile and I was like, 'No, no, no! Don't come near me!'"

The film, about a cop-turned-convict-turned-fugitive (Worthington) who has to be talked off the ledge of a high-rise building by a New York Police Department hostage negotiator (Banks), was shot "practically," which means that when it looks like the actors are standing on the side of a building, they're actually on the side of a building — not on a set or in front of a green screen somewhere.

The filmmakers constructed a massive shooting apparatus that allowed them to make their movie in the pigeon's playground.

"Everyone was really committed to giving the audience the experience of being up that high with us and giving you vertigo," Banks says.

"I actually wanted (the film) to be in 3-D," Worthington adds, "but then, when I watched it, I realized you don't need it. It has this sweeping arc and you get to experience what it felt like up there."

That feeling being?

"Fear," Worthington grins.

"Not of falling, but of landing, because you'd go splat. You do hang on for grim life. I always had a palm on the wall somewhere."

Worthington says that while shooting, it was almost as difficult to be off the ledge as it was to stay on, comparing it to seasickness.

"It was like being on a boat. If you're on a boat all day, you get sea legs. I would get ledge legs."

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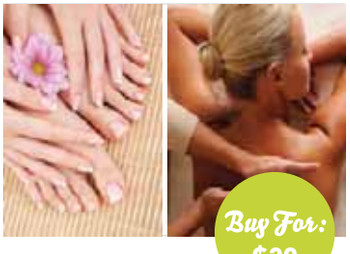

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Movie reviews

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Haywire
Genre: Action
Director: Steven Soderbergh
Stars: Gina Carano, Ewan McGregor
⊕⊕⊕⊕

Filmmaker Steven Soderbergh reunites with The Limey writer Lem Dobbs to create Haywire — what will surely go down as one of 2012's best action films (and yes, I know it's only January). The Ocean's Eleven director brilliantly cast MMA fighter Gina Carano as a covert operative that seeks vengeance and truth after she is double-crossed on a job. While the story is simple enough, it's clear Carano is performing her own incredible fight scenes.

STEVE GOW

A Separation
Genre: Drama
Director: Asghar Farhadi
Stars: Peyman Moadi, Leila Hatami
⊕⊕⊕⊕

Unable to find a compromise between educating their daughter abroad and caring for a husband's sick father, an Iranian couple separates. The subtitles don't detract from the slow unraveling of this family's world as good intentions wreak havoc on the people around them. Director Asghar Farhadi proves skilled at building tension out of small moments in this film, which won the Golden Globe for best foreign language film this week. The story asks a lot of questions about the decisions we make in the interests of our loved ones.

IAN GORMELY

Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close
Genre: Drama
Director: Stephen Daldry
Stars: Thomas Horn, Tom Hanks, Sandra Bullock
⊕⊕⊕ ½

Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close explores the horror of 9-11 through the eyes of a gifted 10-year-old named Oskar (Thomas Horn) whose father (Tom Hanks) was killed in the attack. This is a 9-11 movie that isn't about ideology but the human cost of ideology. Oskar's search isn't for answers as to why 9-11 happened, but rather to keep a connection to his father alive. Good performances all round, Sandra Bullock and Max Von Sydow are standouts, but Horn does much of the work, his doe eyes conveying the pain, hurt and confusion that comes along with great loss. It's a bit over long, with a drawn out ending, but a few moments guaranteed to trigger the water works.

RICHARD CROUSE

Coriolanus
Genre: Drama
Director: Ralph Fiennes
Stars: Ralph Fiennes, Gerard Butler, Brian Cox
⊕⊕⊕½

Ralph Fiennes' ferocious adaptation of one of Shakespeare's least-known plays has been calibrated for present-tense relevance: the director casts himself as the resentful, battle-scarred general of a war-torn nation battling media spin and the machinations of duplicitous politicians. Expert support from Jessica Chastain, Vanessa Redgrave and, surprisingly, Gerard Butler — as Fiennes' equally combat-savvy nemesis — gives the film dramatic heft to balance its scattered action flick moves.

ADAM NAYMAN

THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., JAN. 20 TO THURS., JAN. 26. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COMPLETE LISTINGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT METRONEWS.CA/MOVIES.

VANCOUVER

OMNIMAX THEATRE SCIENCE WORLD
1455 Quebec St., 604-443-7443

Arabia (STC) Fri 11:1 Sat-Sun 1:3 Mon-Thu 11:1
Dinosaurs Alive! (STC) Fri 12:2 Sat-Sun 12:2-4 Mon-Thu 12:2

DENMAN CINEMAS
1779 Comox, 604-558-3456

Café de Flore (STC) Fri-Thu 2:20
Happy Feet Two (G) Sat 12
J. Edgar (PG) Fri-Tue 6:40 Thu 6:40
Moneyball (PG) Fri-Wed 9:15
Puss in Boots (G) Sun 12
Surviving Progress (G) Mon-Thu 12
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1 (PG) Fri-Thu 4:20

DUNBAR THEATRE
4555 Dunbar Street, 604-222-2991

Contraband (18A) Fri 7:9:30 Sat-Sun 4:7:9:30 Mon-Thu 5:7:45

FIFTH AVENUE CINEMAS
2110 Burrard Street, 604-734-7469

The Artist (G) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:15-7:10-9:20
The Descendants (PG) Fri-Thu 1:45-4:30-7:20-9:40
Hugo 3D (G) Fri-Thu 1:3:45-6:50-9:45
My Week With Marilyn (PG) Fri 4:45-7:30-9:35 Sat-Tue 2:4:45-7:30-9:35 Wed 2:4:45-9:35 Thu 2:4:45-7:30-9:35
A Separation (G) Fri-Thu 1:15-4:7-9:30

GRANVILLE
855 Granville St., 604-684-4000

Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked (STC) DTS Digital Fri 6:30-8:50 DTS Digital Sat-Sun 4:15-6:30-8:50 DTS Digital Mon-Thu 5:45-7:50
The Devil Inside (14A) DTS Digital Fri 7:9:05 DTS Digital Sat-Sun 4:30-7:9:05 DTS Digital Mon-Thu 5:55-8:30 **Melancholia** (STC) DTS Digital Fri 6:45-9:20 DTS Digital Sat-Sun 4:6:45-9:20 DTS Digital Mon-Thu 5:25-8:05 **The Muppets** (G) DTS Digital Fri 6:55-9:10 DTS Digital Sat-Sun 4:25-6:55-9:10 DTS Digital Mon-Thu 5:40-7:55 **The Way** (PG) DTS Digital Fri 6:50-9:25 DTS Digital Sat-Sun 4:10-6:50-9:25 DTS Digital Mon-Thu 5:35-8:15 **We Bought a Zoo** (PG) DTS Digital Fri 6:40-9:15 DTS Digital Sat-Sun 4:05-6:40-9:15 DTS Digital Mon-Thu 5:30-8:10
Young Adult (PG) DTS Digital Fri 6:35-9 DTS Digital Sat-Sun 4:20-6:35-9 DTS Digital Mon-Thu 5:50-8:20

PACIFIC CINÉMATHÈQUE
1131 Howe Street, 604-688-3456

The Battleship Potemkin (STC) Wed 8:10 Thu 6:30
Café de Flore (STC) Fri 8:35
Canada's Top Ten Shorts 2011 Program 1 (STC) Sun 6:45
Canada's Top Ten Shorts 2011 Program 2 (STC) Sun 8:05
Monsieur Lazhar (STC) Sat 6:30
No Films Showing Today (STC) Tue
Reminiscences of a Journey to Lithuania (STC) Mon 7:30
Starbuck (14A) Fri 6:30 Sat 8:20
Strike (STC) Wed 6:30 Thu 8

PARK THEATRE
3440 Cambie Street, 604-876-2747

The Metropolitan Opera: The Enchanted Island - Live (STC) A.M. Sat 10
Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy (14A) Fri-Sat 4:7:9:35 Sun 1:15:4:7:9:35 Mon-Thu 4:7:9:35

RIDGE THEATRE
3131 Arbutus Street, 604-738-6311

The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (18A) Fri-Thu 3:45:7:10

RIO ON BROADWAY
1660 E. Broadway, 604-878-Film
riotheatre.ca

The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (18A) Sat-Wed 6:30-9:30 **No Films Showing Today** (STC) Thu **Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory** (STC) Fri 12

SCOTIABANK THEATRE VANCOUVER
900 Burrard St., 604-630-1407

Beauty and the Beast 3D (STC) Fri 12:45:3-5:15-7:30-9:45 Sat 10:30-12:45:3-5:15:7:30-9:45 Sun 12:45:3-5:15:7:30-9:45 Mon-Thu 1:05:3:10-5:20-7:30-9:45
The Bridge on the River Kwai (G) Sun 1
Contraband (18A) Fri-Sun 12:10-2:40-5:15-8:10-10:45 Mon-Thu 2:30-5:05-7:40-10:25
Deadmau5 - Meowingtons Hax 2k11 Toronto (G) Mon 7
The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (18A) Fri-Sun 12:30:3:55-7:20-10:45 Mon 2:45-10:10 Tue 2:45-6:45-10:10 Wed 6:45-10:10 Thu 2:6:45-10:10
Haywire (PG) Fri 12:40-3:10-5:30-8:10:35 Sat 12:40-2:55-5:10-8:10:35 Sun 12:40-3:10-5:30-8:10:35 Mon-Thu 1:3:20-5:40-8:10:20
Hugo 3D (G) Fri 12:50-3:45-7:25-10:15 Sat 2:4:55-7:25-10:15 Sun 4:30-7:25-10:15 Mon 1:15-4:10:15 Tue-Wed 1:15-4:15:7:25-10:15 Thu 1:15-4:10:15
The Metropolitan Opera: The Enchanted Island - Live (STC) Sat 9:55
Mission: Impossible — Ghost Protocol (PG) Fri 1-4-7:35-10:40 Sat 2-5-7:35-10:40 Sun 1-4-7:35-10:40 Mon-Thu 1:30-4:30-7:35-10:30
Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG) Fri-Sun 12:20-3:30-7:15-10:20 Mon-Thu 1:3:55-7:10-10:05
Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy (14A) Fri-Sun 12:55-3:50-6:50-9:50 Mon-Wed 1:10-4-6:50-9:50 Thu 1:10-4-6:50
Underworld: Awakening 3D (18A) No Passes Fri 12:35:3-5:25-7:50-10:25 No Passes Sat 12:35:2:50-5:05-7:50-10:25 No Passes Sun 12:35:3-5:25-7:50-10:25 No Passes Mon-Thu 1:20-3:35-5:50-8:10-10:30

VANCITY THEATRE
Vancouver International Film Centre
1181 Seymour Street, 604-683-Film

The Eye of the Day (STC) Sun 1
No Films Showing Today (STC) Sat Tue Thu
Position Among the Stars (STC) Fri 7 Sun 5:7:15 Mon 6:30-8:40 Wed 6:30-8:40
Shape of the Moon (STC) Sun 2:50

NORTH SHORE

ESPLANADE 6
200 West Esplanade, 604-983-2762

The Adventures of Tintin (PG) Fri-Sun 1:10 Mon-Thu 7:10-9:45 Fri-Sun 3:55-7:10-9:45
Beauty and the Beast 3D (STC) Fri-Sun 12:50-3:20-7:30-9:55 Mon-Thu 7:30-9:55
A Dangerous Method (14A) Fri-Sun 1:20-3:45-6:30-9:20 Mon-Thu 6:30-9:20
Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close (G) No Passes Fri-Sun 1-4-7-10 No Passes Mon-Thu 7-10
Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG) Fri-Sun 12:55-3:50-6:50-9:50 Mon-Thu 6:50-9:50
Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy (14A) Fri-Sun 12:45-3:40-6:40-9:35 Mon-Thu 6:40-9:35

PARK & TILFORD
333 Brooksbank Ave., 604-985-3911

Contraband (18A) Fri 7:20-9:50 Sat 2-4:30-7:20-9:50 Sun 1:40-4:30-7:20-9:50 Mon-Thu 7:20-9:50
The Descendants (PG) Fri 6:30-9:10 Sat-Sun 1:10-3:50-6:30-9:10 Mon-Tue 6:30-9:10 Wed 9:25 Thu 6:30-9:10
The Iron Lady (PG) Fri 7-9:30 Sat-Sun 1:30-4:10-7-9:30 Mon-Thu 7-9:30 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
The Metropolitan Opera: The Enchanted Island - Live (STC) Sat 9:55
Mission: Impossible — Ghost Protocol (PG) Fri 6:50-9:40 Sat-Sun 1:3:55-6:50-9:40 Mon-Thu 6:50-9:40 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Red Tails (PG) No Passes Fri 6:40-9:20 No Passes Sat-Sun 1:20-4-6:40-9:20 No Passes Mon-Thu 6:40-9:20
Underworld: Awakening 3D (18A) No Passes Fri 7:10-9:45 No Passes Sat-Sun 1:50-4:20-7:10-9:45 No Passes Mon-Thu 7:10-9:45

RICHMOND

SILVERCITY RIVERPORT
14211 Entertainment Way, 604-272-7280

The Adventures of Tintin 3D (PG) Fri-Wed 1:10-4:10-6:55-9:40 Thu 1:10-4:10-9:40
Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked (STC) Fri 1:35-4:35 Sat 2:15-4:35 Sun-Thu 1:35-4:35
Beauty and the Beast 3D (STC) Fri-Sun 12:15-2:50-5:20-7:40-10 Mon-Wed 1:15-4:20-6:55-9:40 Thu 1:15-4:20-6:55-9:45
The Bridge on the River Kwai (G) Sun 1
Contraband (18A) Fri 12:55-4:15-7:45-10:45 Sat 12:55-4:45-7:45-10:45 Sun 12:55-4:40-7:45-10:45 Mon 12:55-4-7-10:10 Tue 12:55-4:15-7-10:10 Wed 12:55-4-7-10:10 Thu 12:55-4:15-7-10:10
A Dangerous Method (14A) Fri-Sun 12:45-4:05-7:15-10:10 Mon-Thu 12:25-3:35-6:55-9:45
The Descendants (PG) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:55-7:05-9:55
The Devil Inside (14A) Fri-Sun 7:25-10:35 Mon-Thu 7:25-10:20
Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close (G) Fri-Wed 12:25-3:45-7:10-10:20 Thu 3:50-7:10-10:20 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (18A) Fri-Sun 12:3:30-7:10:40 Mon-Thu 1:45-6:15-9:55
Haywire (PG) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:25-7:35-10:15
Hugo 3D (G) Fri-Thu 12:35
The Iron Lady (PG) Fri-Wed 12:20-3:40-6:35-9:30 Thu 3:40-6:35-9:30 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Joyful Noise (PG) Fri-Sun 12:40-4:20-7:30-10:40 Mon-Thu 12:40-4:20-7:30-10:30
The Metropolitan Opera: The Enchanted Island - Live (STC) Sat 9:55
Mission: Impossible — Ghost Protocol (PG) Fri-Sun 3:45-7:15-10:35 Mon-Thu 3:35-7:15-10:30
Mission: Impossible — Ghost Protocol: The IMAX Experience (PG) Fri-Thu 1-4-7:10
Red Tails (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:10-3:25-6:40-9:50
Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG) Fri-Thu 12:30-3:50-7:10-10:30
Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy (14A) Fri-Thu 12:3:15-6:45-10:05
Underworld: Awakening 3D (18A) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:40-4:40-7:30-10:05
The Viral Factor (14A) Fri-Thu 12:50-4:05-7:20-10:20
War Horse (PG) Fri-Sat 12:05:3:35-6:50-10:25 Sun 3:35-6:50-10:25 Mon-Tue 12:05:3:35-6:50-10:25 Wed 6:50-10:25 Thu 12:05:3:35-6:50-10:25

BURNABY

DOLPHIN CINEMAS
4555 E. Hastings St., 604-293-0332

Mission: Impossible — Ghost Protocol (PG) Fri 4:30-7-9:30 Sat-Sun 2-4:30-7-9:30 Mon-Thu 4:30-7-9:30 **We Bought a Zoo** (PG) Fri 4:40-7:10-9:30 Sat-Sun 2-4:40-7:10-9:30 Mon-Thu 4:40-7:10-9:30

SILVERCITY METROPOLIS
4700 Kingsway Ave., 604-435-7474

The Adventures of Tintin 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 2-4:40-7:25-10 Mon-Thu 1:55-4:35-7:10-9:45
Beauty and the Beast 3D (STC) Fri-Sun 12:40-3-5:20-7:40-10 Mon-Thu 2:35-5:10-7:30-10
Contraband (18A) Fri-Sun 2:20-5:10-7:45-10:30 Mon-Thu 2:20-5:10-8:10:30
The Devil Inside (14A) Fri 1:50-4-6:15-8:30-10:45 Sat 2-4-6:15-8:30-10:45 Sun 1:50-4-6:15-8:30-10:45 Mon-Wed 2:30-5:20-7:55-10:25 Thu 2:30-5:20-10:25
Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close (G) Fri-Sun 1:15-4:15-7:15-10:15 Mon-Thu 1:40-4:30-7:15-10:10
The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (18A) Fri-Sun 12:30-3:55-7:20-10:45 Mon-Thu 2-6:30-10
Haywire (PG) Fri-Sun 12:50-3:20-5:45-8:05-10:40 Mon-Thu 2:25-5:15-7:45-10:15
The Metropolitan Opera: The Enchanted Island - Live (STC) Sat 9:55
Mission: Impossible — Ghost Protocol (PG) Fri-Sun 1:4:05-7:10-10:15 Mon-Thu 1:15-4:15-7:15-10:15
Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG) Fri-Sun 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:30 Mon-Thu 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:25
Underworld: Awakening 3D (18A) No Passes Fri-Sun 1:10-3:20-5:40-8:20-10:40 No Passes Mon-Thu 1:20-3:30-5:45-8:05-10:20

STATION SQUARE
220-6200 McKay Ave., 604-434-7711

Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked (STC) Fri 4:25-7:15-9:35 Sat 1:25-4:25-7:15-9:35 Sun 1:25-4:25-7:15 Mon-Thu 4:25-7:15
Hugo (G) Fri 4:05-6:55-9:40 Sat 1:05-4:05-6:55-9:40 Sun 1:05-4:05-6:55 Mon-Thu 4:05-6:55
Joyful Noise (PG) Fri 4:30-7:20-9:50 Sat 1:30-4:30-7:20-9:50 Sun 1:30-4:30-7:20 Mon-Thu 4:30-7:20
The Muppets (G) Fri 4:10-6:50-9:30 Sat 1:10-4:10-6:50-9:30 Sun 1:10-4:10-6:50 Mon-Thu 4:10-6:50
Red Tails (PG) No Passes Fri 4:20-7:05-9:45 No Passes Sat 1:20-4:20-7:05-9:45 No Passes Sun 1:20-4:20-7:05 No Passes Mon-Thu 4:20-7:05
The Viral Factor (14A) Fri 4:15-7:10-10 Sat 1:15-4:15-7:10-10 Sun 1:15-4:15-7:10 Mon-Thu 4:15-7:10
War Horse (PG) Fri 4-7-9:55 Sat 1-4-7-9:55 Sun 1-4-7 Mon-Thu 4-7

NEW WEST/ COQUITLAM

SILVERCITY COQUITLAM
170 Schoolhouse Street, 604-523-2911

The Adventures of Tintin 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 12:55-3:50-6:30
The Artist (G) Fri-Tue 1:25-4:10-6:50-9:30 Wed 4:10-6:50-9:30 Thu 1:25-4:10-6:50-9:30 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Beauty and the Beast 3D (STC) Fri-Thu 12:25-2:50-5:20-7:45-10:10
The Bridge on the River Kwai (G) Sun 1
Contraband (18A) Fri-Sun 12:45-3:30-6:30-9:30 Mon-Thu 12:55-3:30-6:30-9:30 Fri-Thu 2-4:50-7:35-10:15
A Dangerous Method (14A) Fri-Thu 12:40-3:10-5:40-8:10-10:40
The Descendants (PG) Fri-Sun 12:15-3:15-6:15-9:10 Mon-Thu 12:25-3:15-6:15-9:10
The Devil Inside (14A) Fri-Thu 9:10
Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close (G) Fri-Tue 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:40 Wed 4:30-7:30-10:40 Thu 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:40 Fri-Sun 1-4-7:15-10:25 Mon-Thu 1:10-4-7:15-10:25 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (18A) Fri-Thu 12:15-3:35-6:55-10:15
Haywire (PG) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:20-5:45-8:05-10:40
The Iron Lady (PG) Fri 1-3:30-6:40-9:15 Sat-Sun 2-4:20-6:40-9:15 Sun-Thu 1-3:30-6:40-9:15
Joyful Noise (PG) Fri-Thu 1:50-4:35-7:25-10:05
The Metropolitan Opera: The Enchanted Island - Live (STC) Sat 9:55
Mission: Impossible — Ghost Protocol (PG) Fri-Thu 12:45-4-7:15-10:20 Fri-Sun 12:30-3:45-7-10:10 Mon-Thu 12:40-3:45-7-10:10
Red Tails (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:45-4:45-7:45-10:45
Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG) Fri-Sat 12:30-3:45-6:45-9:55 Sun 4-6:45-9:55 Mon-Thu 12:30-3:45-6:45-9:55
Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy (14A) Fri-Thu 1:40-4:40-7:40-10:35
Underworld: Awakening 3D (18A) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:20-3:40-6-8:20-10:50 No Passes Fri-Sun 1:30-4:30-7:40-10:45 No Passes Mon-Thu 1:40-4:30-7:40-10:45

SURREY/WHITE ROCK/LANGLEY

CLOVA
5732-176th St., Surrey, 604-541-9527

J. Edgar (PG) Fri-Thu 9:30
Mission: Impossible — Ghost Protocol (PG) Fri-Thu 7
The Muppets (G) Sat-Sun 1:30

HOLLYWOOD 3 CINEMA
7125-138th Street, Surrey, 604-592-4441

Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked (STC) Fri 5-7 Sat-Sun 1-3-5-7 Mon-Thu 5-7
Happy Feet Two (G) Sat-Sun 12:45
Hugo (G) Fri-Thu 8:50 **Jack and Jill** (PG) Fri-Thu 5
The Muppets (G) Fri 6:50 Sat-Sun 2:50-6:50 Mon-Thu 6:50 **New Year's Eve** (PG) Fri-Thu 8:55
Puss in Boots (G) Fri 5:05 Sat 1-5:05 Sun-Thu 5:05
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1 (PG) Fri 7-9:15 Sat-Sun 2:50-7-9:15 Mon-Thu 7-9:15

STRAWBERRY HILL GRANDE
12161-72nd Ave, Surrey, 604-501-9400

The Adventures of Tintin 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 1:50-4:25-7:15-9:55
Beauty and the Beast 3D (STC) Fri-Sun 12:45-3:05-5:20-7:45-10 Mon-Thu 1-3:15-5:30-7:45-10
Contraband (18A) Fri-Sun 2:40-5:25-8-10:45 Mon-Thu 2:40-5:25-8-10:40
Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close (G) Fri-Tue 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:30 Wed 4:30-7:30-10:30 Thu 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:30 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (18A) Fri-Sun 12:30-3:55-7:20-10:45 Mon-Thu 2:15-6:30-10:10
Haywire (PG) Fri-Sun 12:50-3:20-5:45-8:10-10:40 Mon-Tue 1-3:20-5:45-8:10-10:40 Wed 3:20-5:45-8:10-10:40 Thu 1-3:20-5:45-8:10-10:40 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
The Iron Lady (PG) Fri-Thu 2:30-5:05-7:35-10:15
Mission: Impossible — Ghost Protocol (PG) Fri-Sun 1:15-4:40-7:50-10:50 Mon-Thu 1:15-4:40-7:50-10:45
Pure Punjabi (STC) Fri-Thu 1-4-7:10-10:20
Red Tails (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:45-4:45-7:40-10:35
Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG) Fri-Thu 1:25-4:35-7:25-10:25
Underworld: Awakening 3D (18A) No Passes Fri-Sun 1:20-3:40-6-8:20-10:50 No Passes Mon-Thu 1:20-3:40-6-8:20-10:35

STUDIO 12 GUILDFORD
15051-101st Ave, Surrey, 604-581-1176

Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked (STC), Fri 3:25, Sat-Sun 12:30-3:25, Mon, Tue 3:25, Wed-Thu
Beauty and the Beast 3D (STC), Fri 3:45-6:45-9:15, Sat-Sun 12:45-3:45-6:45-9:15, Mon 5:7:45, Tue 3:45-6:45-9:15, Wed-Thu 5:7:45
Contraband (18A), Fri 4:15-7:15-10:10, Sat-Sun 1:30-4:15-7:15-10:10, Mon 5:30-8:30, Tue 4:15-7:15-10:10, Wed-Thu 5:30-8:30
The Devil Inside (14A), Fri 4:35-7:30-10:15, Sat-Sun 1:35-4:35-7:30-10:15, Mon 5:50-8:45, Tue 4:35-7:30-10:15, Wed-Thu 5:50-8:45
Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close (G), Fri 3:50-6:50-9:45, Sat-Sun 12:50-3:50-6:50-9:45, Mon 5:15-8:15, Tue 3:50-6:50-9:45, Wed-Thu 5:15-8:15
The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (18A), Fri 4:30-8, Sat-Sun 1-4:30-8, Mon 4:45-8:10, Tue 4:30-8, Wed-Thu 4:45-8:10
Haywire (PG), Fri 4:10-7:10-9:35, Sat-Sun 1:15-4:10-7:10-9:35, Mon 5:40-8:25, Tue 4:10-7:10-9:35, Wed-Thu 5:40-8:25
The Iron Lady (PG), Fri 3:35-6:30-9:40, Sat-Sun 1:05-3:35-6:30-9:40, Mon 5:20-8:20, Tue 3:35-6:30-9:40, Wed-Thu 5:20-8:20
Joyful Noise (PG), Fri 3:30-6:20-9:20, Sat-Sun 12:35-3:30-6:20-9:20, Mon 5:10-7:55, Tue 3:30-6:20-9:20, Wed-Thu 5:10-7:55
Mission: Impossible — Ghost Protocol (PG), Fri 4-7-9:50, Sat-Sun 12:55-4-7-9:50, Mon 4:55-7:50, Tue 4-7-9:50, Wed-Thu 4:55-7:50
Red Tails (PG), Fri 3:40-6:35-9:30, Sat-Sun 12:40-3:40-6:35-9:30, Mon 5:05-8:05, Tue 3:40-6:35-9:30, Wed-Thu 5:05-8:05
Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG), Fri-Sun 6:25-9:25, Mon 4:50-8, Tue 6:25-9:25, Wed-Thu 4:50-8
Underworld: Awakening (18A), Fri 4:25-7:25-10, Sat-Sun 1:25-4:25-7:25-10, Mon 5:35-8:40, Tue 4:25-7:25-10, Wed-Thu 5:35-8:40

RIALTO
1732-152nd Street, White Rock, 604-541-9527, criteriontheatres.com

Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close (G) Fri 7-9:25 Sat-Sun 2:10-7-9:25 Mon-Thu 7-9:25
War Horse (PG) Fri 8 Sat-Sun 2-8 Mon-Thu 8

CRITERION 4 WHITE ROCK
2381 King George Highway, 604-531-7456, criteriontheatres.com

The Adventures of Tintin (PG) Sat-Sun 2:10
Contraband (18A) Fri 7:20-9:40 Sat-Sun 2:20-7:20-9:40 Mon-Thu 7:20-9:40
Mission: Impossible — Ghost Protocol (PG) Fri 7-9:30 Sat-Sun 2-7-9:30 Mon-Thu 7-9:30
Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG) Fri-Thu 7:10-9:35
Underworld: Awakening (18A) Fri 7:30-9:45 Sat-Sun 2:30-7:30-9:45 Mon-Thu 7:30-9:45

COLOSSUS LANGLEY
20090-91A Ave, Langley, 604-513-8747

The Adventures of Tintin 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 1:15-4:05-7:10-9:50 Mon-Thu 4:05-7:10-9:50
Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked (STC) Fri-Sun 12:2:20-4:35 Mon-Thu 4:35
Beauty and the Beast 3D (STC) Fri-Sun 12:2:30-4:45-7:15-9:40 Mon-Thu 4:45-7:15-9:40
The Bridge on the River Kwai (G) Sun 1
Contraband (18A) Fri-Sun 1:05-4-7:40-10:30 Mon-Thu 4-7:40-10:30
A Dangerous Method (14A) Fri-Sun 12:50-3:50-7:25-10:10 Mon-Thu 3:50-7:25-10:10
The Descendants (PG) Fri-Sun 12:40-3:55-7:05-9:50 Mon-Thu 3:55-7:05-9:50
The Devil Inside (14A) Fri-Tue 7:20-10:05 Wed 10:05 Thu 7:20-10:05
Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close (G) Fri-Sun 12:25-3:35-7:10:25 Mon-Tue 3:35-7:10:25 Wed 7-10:25 Thu 3:35-7:10:25 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 3
The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (18A) Fri-Sun 12:05-3:20-6:45-10:10 Mon-Thu 4:40-8:20
Haywire (PG) Fri 1:35-4:25-7:20-10:15 Sat 2-4:25-7:20-10:15 Sun 1:35-4:25-7:20-10:15 Mon-Thu 4:25-7:20-10:15
Hugo 3D (G) Fri-Sun 12:15 Mon-Thu 4:15
The Iron Lady (PG) Fri-Sun 12:15-3:40-6:45-9:45 Mon-Tue 3:40-6:45-9:45 Wed 6:45-9:45 Thu 3:40-6:45-9:45 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 3
Joyful Noise (PG) Fri-Sun 12:20-3:35-6:55-9:55 Mon-Thu 3:35-6:55-9:55
The Metropolitan Opera: The Enchanted Island - Live (STC) Sat 9:55
Mission: Impossible — Ghost Protocol (PG) Fri-Sun 3:30-7:25-10:30 Mon-Thu 7:25-10:30
Mission: Impossible — Ghost Protocol: The IMAX Experience (PG) Fri-Sun 1-4-7:10 Mon-Thu 4-7:10
Red Tails (PG) No Passes Fri-Sun 12:35:3-45-6:50-10 No Passes Mon-Thu 3:45-6:50-10
Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG) Fri-Sun 12:45-4:10-7:15-10:20 Mon-Thu 4:10-7:15-10:20
Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy (14A) Fri-Sun 12:05-3:20-6:40-9:55 Mon-Thu 3:30-6:40-9:55
Underworld: Awakening 3D (18A) No Passes Fri-Sun 1:10-4:15-7:30-10:20 No Passes Mon-Thu 4:30-7:30-10:20
War Horse (PG) Fri-Sun 12:10-3:25-6:50-10:15 Mon-Thu 3:45-6:50-10:15
We Bought a Zoo (PG) Fri-Sat 12:55-4-7:35-10:25 Sun 4:30-7:35-10:25 Mon-Thu 4-7:35-10:25

Hot new winter TV shows

The wind is howling, the snow is falling and even your dog doesn't want to go outside We could tell you to curl up with a good book, but we're sure most of you would rather put on your Snuggie and watch these guilty pleasures

HANDOUT

House of Lies

Oscar-winner Don Cheadle gets what he wants — by any means necessary — as cutthroat management consultant Marty Kaan, who charges America's one per cent for his high-priced advice (and the occasional night of strip club debauchery).

Why we'll be watching: It's fascinating to watch the serious, intense Cheadle morph into such a charismatic con man.

Matching his wit is Kristen Bell as an ambitious member of Marty's team.

Airs Mondays on The Movie Network and Movie Central

HANDOUT

Smash

American Idol runner-up Katharine McPhee stars as a wannabe Broadway star who auditions for a musical about the life of Marilyn Monroe.

Debra Messing and Anjelica Huston also star.

Why you'll love it: Every network's been trying to figure out how to mimic the success of Glee with their own musical series; NBC nails it with this behind-the-Broadway-scenes drama from Steven Spielberg.

It's going to be, well, a Smash.

Premieres Feb. 6 on CTV

HBO CANADA

Luck

Deadwood creator David Milch is back on HBO. This time, he's got Dustin Hoffman and director Michael Mann with him for a series on horse racing. Milch creates beautiful TV (you just need patience when watching his densely layered epics). Add the allure of thoroughbreds, gambling and Hoffman, and Luck is a sure bet. **Premieres Jan. 29 on HBO Canada**

HANDOUT

Alcatraz

Alcatraz, the island prison off of San Francisco, already holds plenty of intrigue — and even more so in this drama when former inmates who were presumed dead become linked to modern crimes. Add the storytelling prowess of J.J. Abrams and familiar Lostie Jorge Garcia, and we're already formulating conspiracy theories. **Airs Mondays on Citytv**

HANDOUT

The River

Paranormal Activity creator Oren Peli brings his mastery of "found footage" scares to the small screen.

The host of a nature series goes missing in the Amazon, so — cameras in tow — his wife and son go searching for him.

If you're not already creeped out by what's lurking in those waters, the supernatural elements to this tale will provide plenty to shriek about.

Steven Spielberg's attached his name to this one, too.**Premieres Feb. 7 on CTV**

METRO

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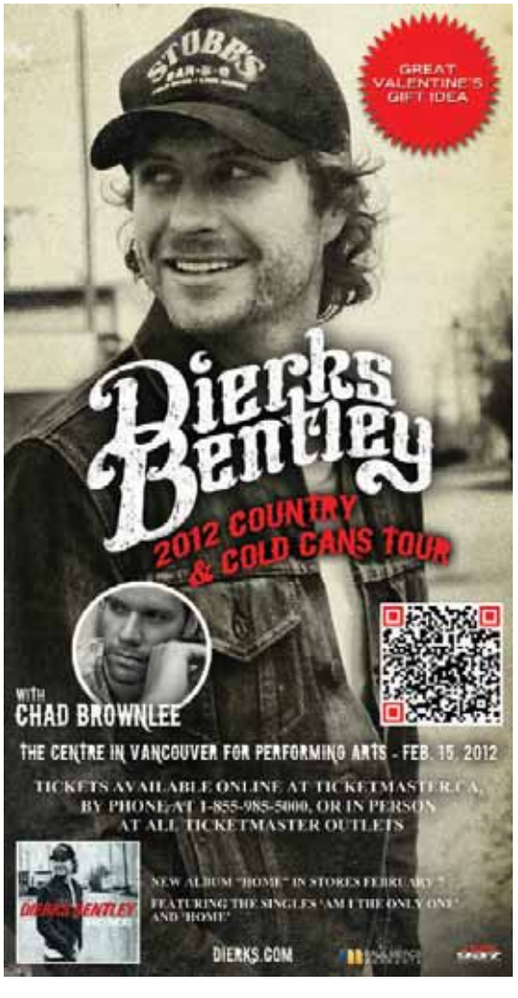
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So this is what J.Lo sees in Mr. Smart

The 24-year-old boy-toy quite the motivational tweeter

THE WORD

DOROTHY ROBINSON
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

Just why did mega-star Jennifer Lopez fall for Casper Smart?

If you're thinking it's because he's a hot piece of young man meat with terrific abs who is completely subservient to her every want and desire, you'd be wrong!

It's his seriously deep tweets, yo. How moving are they? Let's just say: Can someone get the president from the Precious Moments Page-a-Day Calendar company on the phone?

Smart needs to stop dancing and start writing to inspire all of us.

Some of my favourites:

"Age, status, n opinions of others are irrelevant."

"Our hearts are endless and our souls infinite. Ages are mere reminders of the hours logged on this earth and the precious time remaining."

"We should all honor our time here by indulging our passion and dreams. So, close your ears and open your hearts; Love and be happy!"

Smart is so good. How does he know that my "passion and dreams" consist of mocking in a free daily newspaper the throwaway tweets of a 24-year-old back-up dancer I've never met?

Forget the calendar — who wants to make me a motivational poster?

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

▶ Jennifer Lopez and Casper Smart

Brand set to write tell-all: Report

Is Russell Brand writing a tell-all memoir about his 14-month marriage to Katy Perry? According to Us Weekly, he is.

The tabloid says that not only did Brand blindside his pop star wife with the filing of the divorce, but he also is planning to "cover all the nitty-gritty, sometimes ugly details" of their marriage.

Perry, for one, isn't happy. "Katy is insulted and feels betrayed that Russell has treated her so poorly," a pal to the singer tells Us. "She will never forgive him. Ever."

Sure, it's low-class, but is anyone else just the slightest bit interested in knowing if he ever got to play with that whipped-cream bra? METRO

▶ Russell Brand

Celebrity tweets

@RyanSeacrest

Trimmed my leg hair after someone at gym suggested it, now getting mixed reactions. Leg hair - lose it or leave it?

@MissKelly0

i cant believe that just now im getting to bed i have not slept in over 30 hours! i cant complain because i love my job! night night!

@SandraBernhard

peter dinklege is a major actor i run into him at the post office in the village.

@ConanOBrien

If antihistamines are used to make meth, then it stands to reason that meth will help my chest cold.

Pippa ain't having it with the paps

Pippa Middleton is reportedly sick and tired of the paparazzi attention that's become a regular part of her life since her sister, Kate, married Prince William, so her lawyers are taking action, according to Hollyscoop.

Citing the "serious distress and anxiety" the photographers' presence causes, Middleton's lawyers have sent cease-and-desist letters to the "nine or 10 agencies outside her door every day," threatening legal action if they don't ease off.

As for publications, so far the Daily Mail is the only one to vow to stop using paparazzi images of Middleton. METRO

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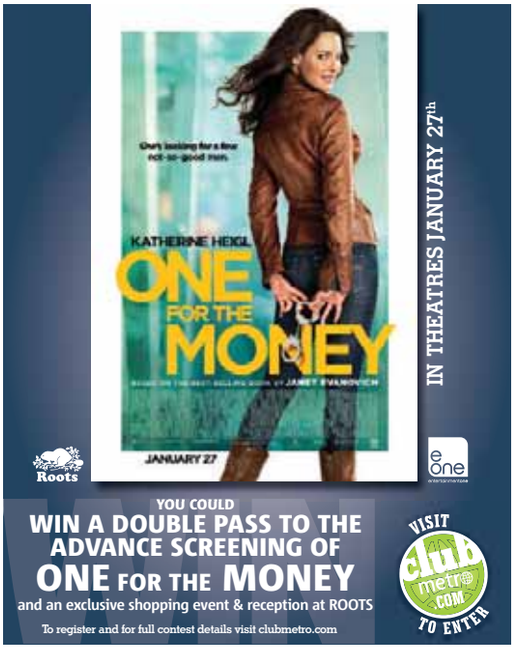
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NEWS CANADA

▶ This recipe serves four.

Reimagining a staple of breakfast

Eggs benedict ditches English muffin in favour of portobello mushroom

Preparation:

1. Rub portobello caps with oil and sprinkle with salt. Spread on baking sheet, cap side up, and roast in 400 F (200 C) oven 15 mins. or until tender.

2. Hollandaise Sauce: Melt butter in small saucepan over low heat. Place egg yolks, lemon juice and salt in blender, and blend for few seconds on High. Remove blender lid, and slowly pour in one third of melted butter. Replace lid and blend for a few seconds on high. Remove lid and pour in another third of melted butter; blend. Repeat with final third of melted butter. Return to saucepan and keep warm. If sauce is too thick, add some hot water, a tablespoon (15 mL) at a time, while whisking constantly until desired consistency is reached. Taste and adjust lemon juice and salt.

3. Fill saucepan (9-inch/23 cm minimum) with 2 to 3 inches (5 to 7.5 cm) of water. Add vinegar. Bring to simmer over medium heat; reduce heat to low. Crack eggs one at a time into small dish, and gently slip them into barely simmering water. Cover pan and cook 4 minutes, until whites are cooked but yolks are still runny (you can test this by gently touching them—they should jiggle). Remove eggs with a slotted spoon, and drain on paper towels.

4. To assemble, place one mushroom cap on each of 4 plates. Top with a poached egg, and a spoonful of hollandaise sauce. Garnish with chives, if desired. Serve immediately. **NEWS CANADA/ JENNIFER HILL OF FOODESS.COM/ ADAPTED BY EMILY RICHARDS (PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK AUTHOR AND A TV CELEBRITY CHEF. FOR MORE, VISIT EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA)**

Ingredients:

- 4 large portobello mushrooms, stemmed
- 2 tbsp (30 mL) olive oil
- Pinch salt

Hollandaise Sauce:

- 1/2 cup (125 mL) butter
- 3 egg yolks
- 2 tbsp (30 mL) lemon juice
- 1/4 tsp (1 mL) salt
- Hot water, as needed
- 4 eggs
- 2 tbsp (30 mL) white vinegar
- Fresh chives, for garnish

The anatomy of scotch

PETER ROCKWELL
LIQUIDASSETS@EASTLINK.CA
TWITTER: @THEREALWINEGUY

Though he admits to never having tasted gasoline, I have a friend who imagines the closest thing to it he's had in his mouth is scotch.

I've tried to turn him around by explaining that to understand it, you need to know that there are three key Scottish varieties.

Blended scotch is a mix of malt and other grain whiskies, vatted versions are a union of just malt whiskies and single malts are the malty output of one distillery.

While most Scots say the real art is in the blending, it's been single malts (with unique characteristics influenced by their surroundings, water source and distiller's philosophy) that have made Scottish booze famous in North America.

With Robert Burns Day on the horizon, there's no better time for my buddy to hold on to his haggis and dive into a palate pounder like Laphroaig 10 Year Old ($70.12 - $84.99) from the island of Islay. It oozes iodine, peat, an attractively abrasive flavour that shouts 'Scotland' and the individuality that makes its malts so pleasantly polarizing. **PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS CANADA. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.**

3 life

Portion control

Carolyn O'Brien, registered dietitian for Dempster's, shares tips to cut down without cutting out your favourite foods

1. Eating breakfast jump-starts your metabolism and helps you reach your daily nutritional needs.

2. Eat six small meals a day, making sure to fuel up pre and post workout.

3. Look for smaller versions of your favourite foods. Love bagels? Try Dempster's Thin Bagels, which are less than half the calories of regular bagels.

4. Use smaller plates to avoid overeating. **DEMPSTER'S**

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Clean slate and welcoming prosperity

Chinese New Year is a celebration of renewal Begins Monday and ends Feb. 9, with special traditions each day

STEPHANIE ORFORD
FOR METRO

After 4,710 years, Chinese New Year has snowballed into one doozy of a party. The celebration has also become part of what it means to be Canadian, and communities across the country will honour and enjoy its rich traditions Monday (Jan. 23).

Chinese New Year is first and foremost a celebration of renewal, explained Kathy Gibler, executive director of the Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden in Vancouver.

In that spirit, its traditions revolve around repaying debts and repelling bad spirits to start off the new year with a clean slate, and welcome prosperity.

Each day has special traditions, such as sending off the kitchen god, decorating the house with flowers and fruits, or remembering departed relatives, explained Gibler.

Because China covers such a large area, traditional food varies widely, but in most households you can't go wrong with fish, which symbolizes abundance, Gibler said. Potstickers and the myriad traditional pastries are also popular choices.

Many people decorate their homes and businesses with red good luck couplets — paper characters with meanings like good luck, long life and prosperity.

"It's a really social time of year," explained Gibler, who lived in China for six years. Many people make house visits to wish friends and family a happy new year, and red envelopes containing money are a common gift, especially for children.

LISA MAREE WILLIAMS/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Chinese New Year begins Monday and ends Feb. 9. The celebration has become part of what it means to be Canadian with special traditions each day.

When the clock strikes midnight on Chinese New Year's Eve, the family runs outside to set off firecrackers and chase away bad luck that might be lingering from the year before.

"Chinese New Year is like Christmas for Canadians, eh?" explained Jun Ing, the parade marshal for Vancouver's Chinese New Year parade.

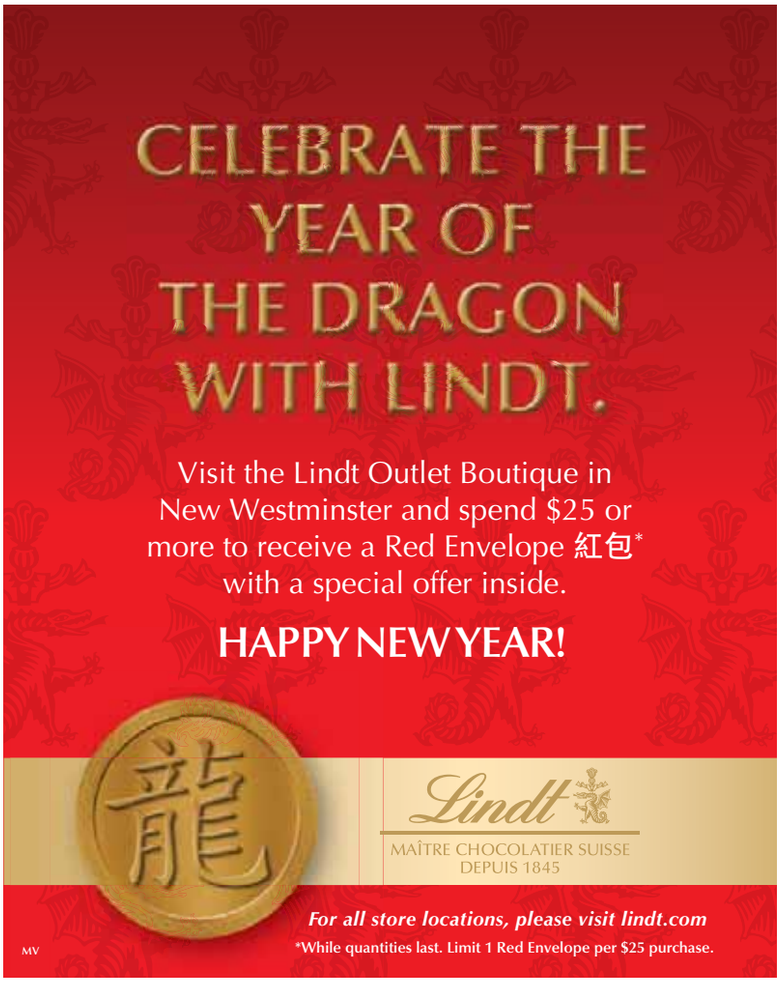
In honour of the year of the water dragon, his parade will have three long dragons, each held up by many dancers.

The symbol of water in this year's water dragon zodiac tempers the powerful, fiery nature of the dragon to make the water dragon less hotheaded and more peaceful, while still remaining strong, explained Gibler.

The lion dance will also make an appearance with its upbeat gong and drum accompaniment, said Ing. He is overseeing more than 14 lion dance teams in the parade this year.

Since its inception 39 years ago, the Vancouver Chinese New Year parade has grown incredibly and taken on a multicultural flavour. Now, many different groups participate, including Special Olympians and Korean martial artists and dancers, Ing explained.

"It's the Canadian way of doing it."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▶ Sandra Bullock

Famous Dragons

Include chef Bobby Flay, actress Monica Bellucci, Ringo Starr, John Lennon, Matt Dillon, Nick Nolte, Al Pacino, Martin Sheen, Sigmund Freud, Mae West, Bruce Lee, Keanu Reeves, Orlando Bloom, Colin Farrell, and Sandra Bullock.

LARRY BUSACCA/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Keanu Reeves

Lunar New Year

- **The Lunar New Year** holiday — also known as the Chinese New Year — is not only a traditional festival for the Chinese, but also for the Korean, Vietnamese and many other East Asian populations in Canada. It is also known in some cultures as the "Spring Festival."
- **The Year of the Dragon** begins Monday, and ends Feb. 9.
- **Your are a Dragon** if you were born in 1952, 1964, 1976, 1988, 2000 or 2012. Dragons prefer to live by their own rules and, if left on their own, are usually successful. They are driven, unafraid of challenges, and willing to take risks.
- **Forty-five per cent** of the population of Richmond reported Chinese ancestry on the 2006 Census, the highest percentage in the country, according to the census.

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Vancouver
Leading Age Computers: 3399 Kingsway Ave
Delta Tech Technology: 1523 West Broadway

4 sports

Two key Lions will stick around

Reid and Mitchell re-sign after difficult decisions

New B.C. head coach Mike Benevides will not have to worry about filling two important positions on both sides of the ball as the Lions seeks another Grey Cup.

Centre Angus Reid and defensive tackle Khalif Mitchell made Benevides' transition to field boss from defensive co-ordinator easier as they re-signed with the Lions this week. Benevides said they "absolutely" will help him in his new role after making difficult personal decisions to stay.

"Having those guys with us and behind me is outstanding," Benevides said Thursday during a media availability at the Lions practice facility. "I value veterans. They've gone to war with us, they know how to win and it helps because they know how to be pros. They know how to control a locker room."

Both Reid and Mitchell played key roles last season as the Lions became the first team in CFL history to overcome a 0-5 start and win a Grey Cup. Reid helped the B.C. offence reverse its fortunes as he assisted in the maturation of quarterback Travis Lulay en route to the pivot earning the CFL Most Outstanding Player award.

Mitchell, a dominant pass rusher, improved a defensive line after Eric Taylor went down with an injury.

Reid, a 35-year-old Richmond, B.C., native who has battled elbow, foot, neck and knee injuries in recent seasons, put off retirement in a bid for a third Grey Cup title. He decided to return shortly after the Lions won the Cup with a win over Winnipeg at B.C. Place Stadium, but waited until after Christmas to see how his body felt.

Mitchell, a 26-year-old Virginia Beach, Va., native rejected a lucrative offer from the NFL's Miami Dolphins to return to the Lions, whom he joined in late 2010.

His decision to return caught both Benevides and general manager Wally Buono off guard. The two football veterans said they had never seen a player reject an NFL offer to stay in the CFL

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sports in brief

The Vancouver Whitecaps added midfielder Jun Marques Davidson to the Major League Soccer club's roster Thursday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

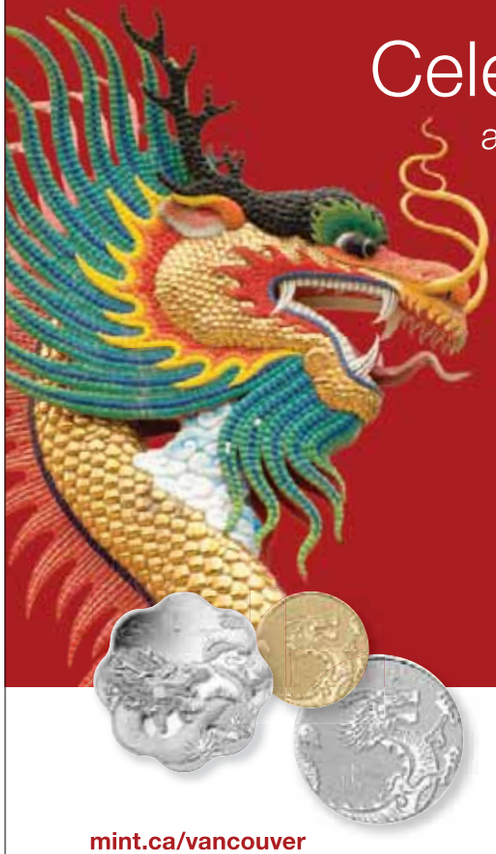
Olympic. Qualifying

▶ Canada's Christine Sinclair, left, celebrates a first -half goal against Haiti with teammates Rhian Wilkinson and Christina Julien at B.C. Place on Thursday night.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sinclair nets 4 vs. Haiti

Christine Sinclair scored four goals and assisted on another as Canada opened the CONCACAF women's Olympic qualifying tournament with a 6-0 win over Haiti Thursday night. Christina Julien and Kelly Parker also scored as Canada, ranked seventh in the world, dominated the 62nd-ranked Haitians.



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- **Enter for a chance to win** a 1/10oz Gold Year of the Dragon coin (retail value $229.95 CAD).

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Event Hours:
- **Friday, January 20:** 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Saturday, January 21:** 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Sunday, January 22:** 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **Monday, January 23:** 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Royal Canadian Mint
Monnaie royale canadienne

Breaking down the final four

On Sunday, the Super Bowl matchup will be set as the Ravens play the Patriots and the Giants face the 49ers

Ravens

OFFENCE: The Ravens must get the ball in the hands of RB **Ray Rice**, the league's leader in total yardage with 2,068 (1,364 rushing). Rice was dynamic the last time he faced the Patriots in a playoff game at Foxborough, breaking an 83-yard run on the first Baltimore play from scrimmage.

DEFENCE: Led by All-Pro NT Haloti Ngata and LB Terrell Suggs — plus the ageless LB Ray Lewis and S Ed Reed — and using a never-back-down philosophy, the Ravens will get after Tom Brady as best they can. But they managed zero sacks and not a ton of pressure against Houston, whose offence is not on the same level as New England's.

Patriots

OFFENCE: Given time, QB Tom Brady will destroy even the best defences. But he hasn't faced a high-quality one in months, and the best defence the Patriots played in 2011, Pittsburgh's, held them to a season-low 17 points. Brady will run the no-huddle as often as possible, hoping to force the Ravens defenders to stay on the field more often than usual.

DEFENCE: Expect Patriots coach Bill Belichick to have something schemed up to neutralize Ray Rice, forcing QB Joe Flacco to beat his team. Flacco isn't spectacular and the Ravens rarely have asked him to be the focal point of the offence. Belichick could force that to happen, especially if superb NT Vince Wilfork has his way in the trenches.

Giants

OFFENCE: The Giants were extremely efficient down the stretch to win the NFC East. They've continued that in the playoffs, mixing in big plays with ball security, getting huge contributions from WRs **Hakeem Nicks**, Victor Cruz and Mario Manningham, and just enough rushing from Ahmad Bradshaw and Brandon Jacobs.

DEFENCE: The Giants have a potentially overpowering pass rush led by All-Pro DE Jason Pierre-Paul, DEs Justin Tuck and Osi Umenyiora, and revitalized LB Michael Boley. They stumbled often in pass coverage for much of the season, but came on in recent weeks against the likes of Tony Romo, Matt Ryan and Aaron Rodgers.

49ers

OFFENCE: If the Niners establish the run with Frank Gore, who rushed for 1,211 yards and eight TDs, and can spring backup Kendall Hunter a few times, it will make QB Alex Smith more effective. In by far the best season of his seven-year career, Smith has avoided turnovers, made more precise throws than ever and been patient.

DEFENCE: The Niners, who allowed an NFC-low 229 points, have strong coverage backs in CB Carlos Rodgers and S Dashon Goldson, each of whom had six interceptions. San Francisco also might be the best tackling team in the NFL, and S Donte Whitner's hit on Pierre Thomas last week displayed that.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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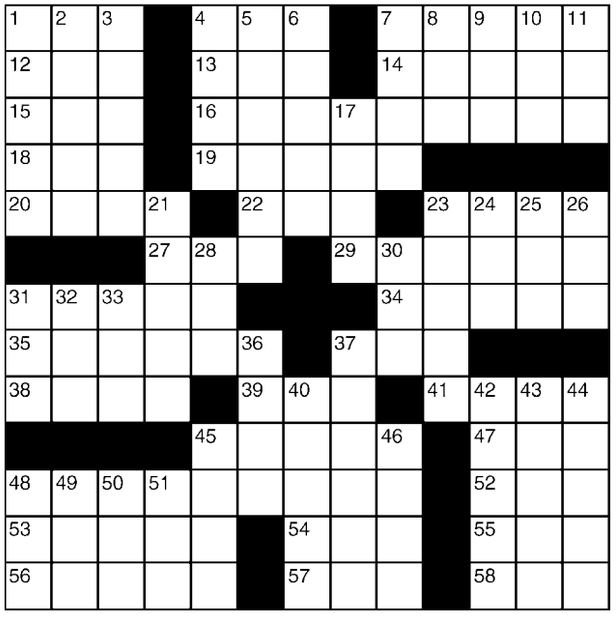
Crossword



Across

1 Voters' mo.
4 "Awesome!"
7 First-aid wrapper
12 "The Greatest"
13 Leading lady?
14 Shrivel
15 Altar affirmative
16 Wagnerian riders
18 Not feel well
19 Laundry woe
20 Out of play
22 Sailor's agreement
23 Advantage
27 Corn spike
29 Tranquilizer name
31 In any way possible
34 African language
35 Dale
37 Chap
38 Ova
39 Portion of N.A.
41 Color crudely
45 Foot soldier
47 Code of life
48 February mailing
52 Lubricate
53 Sports venue
54 Earl Grey, e.g.
55 Caviar base
56 Trapshooting
57 Mess up
58 Football position

Down

1 Water nymph
2 Black-and-white film, e.g.
3 String instrument
4 Guns the engine
5 James Cameron movie
6 Hold up
7 Charles II's mistress Nell
8 Melody
9 Submachine gun
10 Last letter
11 Halves of ems
17 Chicken —
21 — of the Wisconsin
23 Serengeti critter
24 Cacophony
25 Stomach
26 Flightless bird
28 Hearty quaff
30 Lawyers' org.
31 "Hail!"
32 Playground game
33 Math course
36 Domed tent
37 Bearing
40 Hotel accommodation
42 Worship
43 Civil War side
44 Bundled hay
45 Summertime pest
46 Rip
48 Anatomical duct
49 Biblical boat
50 Shelter
51 ºAway from WSW

▶ Yesterday's answer

O	F	F		B	L	E	D		R	E	D	S	
N	O	R		A	I	R	Y		E	T	A	L	
E	X	A	C	T	I	O	N		D	U	R	A	
		C	O	T		S	E	E	M	I	N	G	
U	N	T	O	L	D		S	E	E				
L	E	I		E	N	D		L	A	T	C	H	
N	O	O	K		A	D	D		T	R	A	Y	
A	N	N	U	L		T	I	S		A	S	P	
			M	O	N		P	O	N	C	H	O	
C	O	N	Q	U	E	R		C	U	T			
L	I	E	U		R	E	A	C	T	I	O	N	
A	L	B	A		V	A	N	E		O	R	B	
P	S	S	T		E	M	I	R		N	E	A	

Sudoku

5				7				4
4	1						2	9
			4		2			
	8			6			9	2
		6				1		
7	3			9			5	
			9		7			
9	5						6	3
3				1				8

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

1	2	8	7	6	4	3	9	5
3	5	6	1	9	2	7	4	8
9	7	4	3	8	5	2	1	6
7	1	2	6	4	8	9	5	3
4	3	5	2	1	9	6	8	7
6	8	9	5	3	7	1	2	4
5	9	3	8	7	1	4	6	2
8	6	1	4	2	3	5	7	9
2	4	7	9	5	6	8	3	1

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Girl of my dreams Missing you today I hate that we are apart Without your morning smile I don't know where to start This day drags on and on I need you to keep it fun Where are you to read my horoscope Or to call me hun? Tomorrow I'll see you again I can hardly wait It'll be the best day of the week Because working with you is great xoxox. **GOOFBALL**

Mr.Johnson Spelt Johnson I LOVE YOUR XXX's Just want the world to know how much you mean to me, Sexy Man. oXoXoXo. **DANI**

Cupcake, i love u with all my heart your the only one that has faith in me thank you for beliving in me i cant wait till i marry you your my sweet desert that i cant not live without and i am your firecracker that will go off at any point lol love u for ever and always **FIRECRACKER**

Today's horoscope

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♈ Aries March 21-April 20
From today, other people will find it much easier to work with you. Yes, you can be a difficult partner.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21
With the Sun crossing the career angle of your chart, you must not get upset about things that require a practical approach.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21
You may not have been at your best of late but very soon you will look and feel like a million dollars.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22
If you have been living beyond your means in recent weeks, you will have to tighten your belt now.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23
You will make a lot of friends over the next few days, and most likely you will make one or two enemies.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22
You need to tighten up your working routine. You have wasted a lot of time on activities that are of no real importance.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23
The Sun's move into your fellow Air sign of Aquarius means the next four weeks should be truly special.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22
Make allowances for loved ones and relatives who don't share your level of self-control.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21
You can quite easily turn potential foes into allies today, simply by being a bit less aggressive.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20
The Sun leaves your birth sign today but that does not mean your energy has to drop. Keep going.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18
Your very own new year begins today as the Sun moves into your sign. You should be making plans — and acting on them.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20
Look on the bright side of everything that happens in the next 24 hours. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Caption contest

CHARLIE NEIBERGGALL/ THE AP

JEAN CHRISTOPHE BOTT/ KEYSTONE/ THE AP

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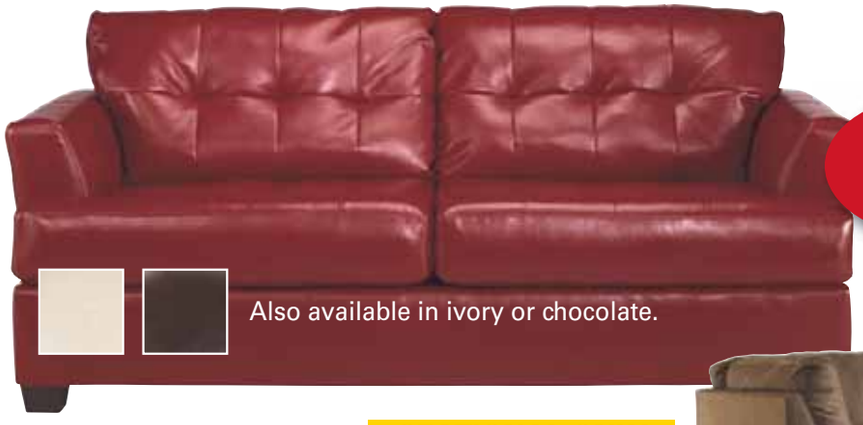

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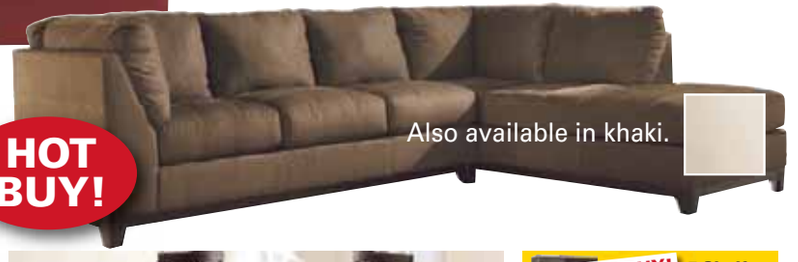

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Riviera Nayarit
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UPGRADE to 5-star accom from $23 per night.

Cancun 7 Nights 4-Star — from $515 + taxes & fees $340

Puerto Plata 7 Nights 4-Star — from $797 + taxes & fees $376

Jamaica 7 Nights 5-Star — from $1085 + taxes & fees $365

Vacations

Prague Air + 7 Nights 4-Star — from $699 + taxes & fees $509
INCLUDES central accom in the historic area of Zizkov. **BONUS** breakfast included.
ADD castle tour from $56

Hong Kong Air + 7 Nights — from $1349 + taxes & fees $350
INCLUDES accom in Kowloon's Mong Kok district, near the Olympian City shopping centre. **UPGRADE** to 5-star accom from $83 per night. **ADD** Symphony of Lights cruise from $52.

Buenos Aires Air + 7 Nights — from $1399 + taxes & fees $568
INCLUDES central accom near attractions. **BONUS** breakfast included. **UPGRADE** to 4-star accom from $8 per night.

Cook Islands Air + 13 Nights — from $1499 + taxes & fees $389
INCLUDES beachfront accom near restaurants and entertainment. **UPGRADE** to 4-star spa accom from $32 per night.

Cruise & Stay

Europe Air + 3 Nights 4-Star + 10-Night Cruise
$1998 from
+ taxes & fees $524
INCLUDES airfare, 2 nights 4-star Rome accom with breakfast located near Termini train station, 10-night cruise sailing from Civitavecchia (Rome) to Amsterdam and visiting Monte Carlo, Barcelona, Alicante, Gibraltar, Lisbon and Zeebrugge and 1-night 4-star Amsterdam accom just a short tram ride to the city centre.

USA

Las Vegas
Air + 3 Nights 4-Star + Cirque du Soleil
$379 from
+ taxes & fees $132
INCLUDES accom on the Strip. **BONUS** tickets to select Cirque du Soleil or other Las Vegas show included.

California Air + Car — from $329◊ + taxes & fees $108
INCLUDES airfare into Orange County, return from San Diego and 7-day economy car rental with unlimited mileage. Price per person based on family of 4.

San Diego Air + 3 Nights — from $399 + taxes & fees $126
INCLUDES central accom near attractions. **BONUS** shuttle service to the airport, zoo and Seaworld included. **ADD** whale and dolphin watching cruise from $84 per person.

San Francisco Air + 4 Nights — from $499 + taxes & fees $109
INCLUDES central accom. **UPGRADE** to 4-star Fisherman's Wharf accom from $46 per night. **ADD** wine country tour from $72.

Maui & Oahu Air + 8 Nights — from $1099 + taxes & fees $136
INCLUDES all airfare, 4 nights Waikiki accom and 4 nights Kahana accom on Maui.

March Break

Anaheim Family Special
Air + 3 Nights
$268◊ from
+ taxes & fees $108
INCLUDES accom near theme parks. Price per person based on family of 4. **ADD** 3-day *Disneyland* Resort Park *Hopper Bonus* Ticket from $205/adult, $189/child (ages 3-9).

Sun Peaks 3 Nights + Lift Pass — from $429 taxes & fees included
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San Diego Air + 4 Nights 4-Star — from $564 + taxes & fees $111
INCLUDES accom on Harbour Island. **UPGRADE** to 5-star accom from $48 per night.

Honolulu Family Special
Air + 7 Nights — from $699◊ + taxes & fees $110
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Los Cabos
Air + 7 Nights 4-Star — from $1098 + taxes & fees $120

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Mexican Riviera
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Eastern Caribbean
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CRUISE roundtrip Port Canaveral and visit Nassau, St Thomas and St Maarten. **UPGRADE** to oceanview stateroom for $30 per night.

Southern Caribbean
7-Night Cruise — from USD $509 + taxes & fees USD $79
CRUISE roundtrip San Juan and visit St Thomas, Barbados, St Lucia, St Kitts and St Maarten. **UPGRADE** to oceanview stateroom for $17 per night.

Hawai'i 11-Night Cruise — from USD $799 + taxes & fees USD $74
CRUISE Ensenada to Honolulu and visit Hilo, Kona, Maui (overnight) and Honolulu (overnight). **UPGRADE** to oceanview stateroom for $14 per night.

Escorted Tours

Croatia 8-Day Tour — from $722 taxes & fees included
HIGHLIGHTS sail Croatia's Adriatic Coast visiting Dubrovnik, the islands of Brac and Hvar. Roundtrip Split.

Africa 14-Day Tour — from $1069 + local payment $875 USD
HIGHLIGHTS Nairobi, the Serengeti Plain, Ngorongoro Crater, the Usambara Mountains, Dar es Salaam, and Stone Town on Zanzibar. Travel Nairobi to Zanzibar.

Greece 9-Day Tour — from $1103 taxes & fees included
HIGHLIGHTS Meteora, Delphi, Corinth Canal, Olympia, Epidaurus and Mycenae. Roundtrip Athens.

Australia 12-Day Tour — from $1588 taxes & fees included
HIGHLIGHTS Surfers Paradise, Noosa, Fraser Island, Farmstay, Whitsundays and Cairns. Tour for ages 18 - 35's. Travel Surfers Paradise to Cairns.

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Conditions apply. Ex: Vancouver. Air only prices are per person for return travel unless otherwise stated. Package, cruise, tour, rail & hotel prices are per person, based on double occupancy for total length of stay unless otherwise stated. All-inclusive vacations include air. Prices are for select departure dates and are accurate and subject to availability at advertising deadline, errors and omissions excepted, and subject to change. Taxes & fees include transportation related fees, GST/HST and fuel supplements and are approximate and subject to change. ◊Price is per person for quad occupancy (2 adults, 2 children age 2-17). †We will beat any written quoted airfare by $1 and give you a $20 voucher for future travel. "Fly Free" offer applies only where all "Lowest Airfare Guarantee" criteria are met but Flight Centre does not beat quoted price. Additional important conditions apply. For full terms and conditions visit www.flightcentre.ca/lowestairfareguarantee-flyfree. BC REG: #HO2790